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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1945

KENDAL:

TITUS WILSON AND SON, LTD., PRINTERS.

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To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Kendal.

SIR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report on the Health of the Borough during the year 1945. The Report follows the lines of those presented during the past few years.

I wish to acknowledge with gratitude the supreme honour you conferred upon me in awarding to me the Honorary Freedom of the Borough.

The work of the Sanitary Inspectors has been most efficient and though often entailing overtime has been cheerfully carried out, and I would thank them for their valuable help.

The Medical Profession has given me all the assistance required and so assuring harmonious working between the departments of Private and Public Medicine; for this I am most grateful.

I am indebted to the help I have received from the School Medical Officers of the County in carrying out immunisation against diphtheria, and tend to them my thanks.

As this will probably be the last occasion on which I shall make an Annual Report to you, I wish to acknowledge the unfailing help I have received from your officials and for the constant courtesy given to me by your Council during the more than 31 years of my happy service.

Should you desire any further particulars I shall be glad to supply the same on your request.

I have the honour to be,

Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. BARON COCKILL,

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF.

NAME.	QUALIFICATIONS.	Office.	Whole or Part Time.	Other Offices.
W. B. Cockill	M.D., etc., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health	Part	M.O.H. Westmorland Combined Districts
W. B. G. Rigg	M.R. San. I.	Chief Sanitary Inspector	Whole	—
J. Buckley	Cert. S.I.B.	Additional San. Inspector	Whole	—
J. H. Major	A.R. San. I.	Assistant San. Inspector	Whole	—
H. M. Brady	S.R.N., C.M.B., F.N.A.	Matron, Isolation Hospital	Whole	—
E. Metcalfe	S.R.N. Health Visitor. R. San. I. New Health Cert.	Health Visitor	Whole	—
J. Wright	L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., D.P.H.	Ophthalmic Surgeon	Part	Acting Joint County M.O.H.
J. Irvine	L.D.S.	Dental Surgeon	Part	County School Dentist
D. Williams	S.R.N.	Orthopaedic Nurse	Part	County Orthopaedic Nurse
M. Butterworth	S.R.C.N. R.San.I., I.C.M.B.	Matron, War Nursery and Nursery School	Whole	—
J. W. Tonge	B.Sc., A.M.Inst.C.E.	Surveyor and Engineer	Whole	—
T. Crowdy	M.I.Mech.E., F.C.S., F.R.Met.Soc., F.F.Sc. (London)	Water Engineer	Part	Gas Engineer
W. H. Roberts	M.Sc., F.I.C.	Public Analyst	Part	—

Two of your oldest officials retired during the year, Mr. G. Jackson, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, and Mr. G. German, the Surveyor, who had respectively 40 and 42 years loyal service to their credit. Mr. Jackson has been elected as a Councillor for the Borough so will still be able to advise in sanitary matters.

Mr. Rigg was appointed to the post of Chief Sanitary Inspector on 1st April, 1945; he began his work in your Sanitary Office in 1926 from which he qualified, and after two years in another office he returned as an additional Sanitary Inspector and has now been promoted.

Mr. J. Buckley took up the position of Temporary Additional Sanitary Inspector on 9th April, 1945.

Mr. J. H. Major, Assistant Sanitary Inspector was released from his duties in the Royal Air Force in November, 1945, and resumed his duties in this department.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1945.

Area (acres)	3,691
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population							
mid 1945	17,710

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Live Births:—		M.	F.	Total.	
Legitimate	...	106	109	215	} Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 13.9.
Illegitimate	...	16	16	32	
Birth Rate: England and Wales	...			16.1.	
Still Births	...	4	3	7	} Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population, 0.39.
Still Birth Rate: England and Wales	...			0.46.	
Deaths	...	108	112	220	} Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 12.4.
Death Rate: England and Wales	...			11.4.	

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal Sepsis	1	3.9
Other Puerperal Causes	2	7.9
Total	3	11.8
Maternal Mortality Rate: England and Wales ...		1.79

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	36
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	37
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	31
Infantile Death Rate: England and Wales	46
Death from Cancer (all ages)	30
„ „ Measles (all ages)	1
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1

The largest number of deaths from any one cause were: —

Heart Disease	55
Intra cranial vascular Lesions	35
Cancer	30

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Combined Districts Laboratory was closed during the year and all work transferred to the Cumberland Pathological Laboratory, Carlisle.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

- (a) Infectious cases Municipal Motor Ambulance.
 (b) Non-infectious cases „ „

The Ambulance Service is very efficient and the following mileage was covered:—

Infectious cases	1938
Non-infectious and Maternity cases	9966
	<hr/>
	11904
	<hr/>

There were no changes in Nursing in the Home, Clinics and Treatment Centres, with the exception of the Scabies Clinic which was closed, nor in the Public or Voluntary Hospitals.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Monday Clinic for antenatal cases has been continued throughout the year as well as the Wednesday Clinic for babies and children.

There has been no need to call upon the Kendal Home Nurses for service in connection with Puerperal Pyrexia or Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

The Home Help has been ill during the year and has attended only four cases, whilst eight others which should have been attended had to make other arrangements.

The Special Mothers' Clinic has only been required for dealing with four mothers, the least amount of work since its inception.

The War Nursery at Abbot Hall has been regularly visited and 48 sessions have been held during the year and 459 examinations of children made.

The Clinic has been open:—

For Expectant Mothers	47	} 112
„ Children	..	..	..	..	49
„ Special Mothers	..	..	..	..	3
„ Immunisations	..	..	..	..	13
Number of Babies under 1 year attending	129	} 241
„ Children 1 to 5 years attending	..	..	..	..	112
„ attendances of babies	1060	} 2045
„ „ Children	..	..	..	..	577
„ „ Mothers	..	..	..	..	96
„ „ Expectant Mothers	..	..	..	..	263
„ „ Post-natal Mothers	..	..	..	..	49
Number of Mothers admitted to Helme Chase or Hospital under the Maternity and Child Welfare Act	38

SUMMARY OF NURSE METCALFE'S WORK:—

First Visits to Babies under 1 year	215	} 2171
Subsequent visits	..	..	..	..	858
Visits to children 1-5 years	..	..	..	..	758
First visits to Expectant Mothers	..	..	..	..	62
Subsequent visits	..	..	..	..	109
Still birth enquiries	..	..	..	..	6
Infant death enquiries	..	..	..	..	10
Visits to Institutions	..	..	..	..	16
Attendances at Centre	..	..	..	..	46
„ Ante-natal Clinics	..	..	..	..	47
„ Mothers Special Clinics	3	} 30
„ Immunisation Clinics	..	..	..	..	11
„ Rose Cottage until April	..	..	..	..	30

SUMMARY OF NURSE WILLIAMS' ORTHOPAEDIC WORK:—

Visits to children under 5 years of age	205	} 255
Children attending Orthopaedic Clinic	..	..	48
Admissions to Ethel Hedley Hospital	..	..	2

There have been many cases of Knock-knee and Bow-legs referred to the Orthopaedic Clinic, no less than 15 out of the above 48; there was one case of Congenital Club-foot which went monthly to Ethel Hedley Hospital for treatment and is doing very well. The two admissions were for Torticollis and Polio-myelitis.

Mr. Irvine has again given most valuable treatment to expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children, mothers being referred either by myself or the midwives and pre-school children by myself.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE:

Mothers treated	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Children treated	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Extractions	...	...	...	...	...	...	61
General Anæsthetics	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Local Anæsthetics	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Other Operations	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
Dentures provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
„ repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Total sessions for work	...	...	...	...	...	...	30

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH IN INFANTS.

Prematurity	Congenital Diseases	Broncho-Pneumonia	Birth Injury	Convulsions	Gastro-Enteritis	Total
4	1	1	2	1	1	10

AGE INCIDENCE OF INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Under 1 week	2 weeks	3 weeks	4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total under 1 year
7	—	—	—	7	3	—	—	—	10

PREMATURE BABIES.

All these were under $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. weight at birth and so required special care. Of these which numbered 23, six died within 24 hours, three within 14 days, and 14 survived for one month.

RESIDENCE AS FOLLOWS:

				<i>Within 1 day.</i>	<i>Within 14 days.</i>	<i>Survived 1 month.</i>
Own Home	...	...	...	1	—	3
Hospital	...	...	...	1	2	3
Nursing Home	...	...	...	4	1	8
				6	3	14

Eight of these deaths occurred in places where the best skilled attention could be given and only one in its own home. The provision of such care has therefore been amply provided.

The Health Visitor keeps in touch with all illegitimate children present in this Area, but they are not in great numbers; the provision of foster parents is a difficulty but has been met to a certain extent; with the attractive high wages paid in the factories doing Government work, there is little inducement for additional work in the home; the War Nursery has been a great help in providing daily care for many of these children.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

The total rainfall at Fisher Tarn was 49.03 inches.

At the commencement of the year there were 178 days' supply; 50 $\frac{3}{4}$ million gallons were supplied from Mints Feet; at the close of the year there were 105 days' supply in hand.

By-washing from Fisher Tarn took place in February to the extent of 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ millions.

Bolefoot tank was cleaned and lime-washed and Mints Feet Well weeded twice. The Chlorination Plants worked satisfactorily.

Monthly bacteriological examinations of the public supplies have been made and these have been satisfactory, and chemical examinations show that the waters are quite fit for human consumption and for all domestic purposes.

*Analysis of Sample of Water taken at 4, Dale End, Shap Road,
31st December, 1945, 10-30 a.m.
Low District Water.*

The results are expressed in parts per 100,000.

Total solid matter in solution	...	...	...	...	...	9.60
Oxygen required to oxidise in 15 minutes	...	...	...	...	...	None
„ „ 3 hours	...	...	...	...	...	None
Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	None
Ammonia from organic matter by distillation with alkaline permanganate	...	...	...	...	...	None
Nitrogen as Nitrates	...	...	...	...	...	0.10
„ Nitrites	...	...	...	...	...	None
Combined chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	0.95
Total Hardness	...	...	...	...	...	5.5

The sample was clear, very faintly yellow and odourless. It was free from suspended matter.

Observations:—

Reaction to Litmus. Very faintly acid.

pH value 6.5

Action on bright lead:—

Lead dissolved in 24 hours ... 0.01 grains per gallon.

The water is quite fit for human consumption and all domestic purposes.

(Signed) W. H. ROBERTS, M.Sc., F.R.I.C.

*Analysis of Sample of Water taken at West Bank Hostel, Queens Road,
31st December, 1945, 11 a.m.*

High District Water.

Results expressed in parts per 100,000.

Total solid matter in solution	...	...	...	...	...	6.16
Oxygen required to oxidise in 15 minutes	...	...	...	...	...	0.026
„ „ 3 hours	...	...	...	...	...	0.049
Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	0.001
Ammonia from organic matter by distillation with alkaline permanganate	...	...	...	...	...	0.006
Nitrogen as Nitrates	...	...	...	...	...	None
„ Nitrites	...	...	...	...	...	None
Combined chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	1.00
Total Hardness	...	...	...	...	...	3.5

The sample was clear, faintly yellow and odourless. It contained only a minute trace of suspended matter which consisted of vegetable debris, diatoms, hydrated oxide of iron, with iron organisms.

Observations:—

Reaction to Litmus	...	...	...	...	...	Neutral
pH value	...	...	...	...	...	6.9

Action on bright lead:—

Lead dissolved in 24 hours ... 0.02 grains per gallon.

The water is quite fit for human consumption and for all domestic purposes.

(Signed) W. H. ROBERTS, M.Sc., F.R.I.C.

There are 45 houses in the Borough which do not obtain their water from the Corporation mains. Of these 13 obtain their supply from the Thirlmere pipe-line, and the remainder from pumps and other private sources.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The work of public cleansing has been carried out under considerable difficulty, labour again being a problem, but some improvement occurred towards the end of the year. The greatest difficulty was the lack of covering material which had to be purchased.

An infestation of crickets occurred in several houses, active measures were taken against this nuisance with good results. During

the summer months the tip was regularly sprayed with disinfectants and insecticides.

Disposal of fish and slaughterhouse garbage is a big and costly problem. It seems a pity that such valuable material is wasted, as all this garbage is buried in deep pits on disused refuse tips. Towards the end of the year the horse and cart were dispensed with and a new seven cubic yard Karrier Bantam Refuse Lorry was purchased. This has been a great improvement. All garbage (hitherto moved by horse and cart) is now moved by motor.

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There has been no extension to the public sewers. The sewage disposal works have been maintained in an efficient manner and the effluent discharged continues to be satisfactory.

There are about 150 houses outside the sewerage area which discharge drainage into cesspools.

The following is an estimate of the closet accommodation in the Borough:—

Washdown and washout closets	...	...	...	5859
Trough closets	...	...	...	60
Privies	...	...	...	17
Pail closets	...	...	...	4
				—
				5940
				—

HOUSING.

The number of inhabited houses in the Borough is 5,196.

No new houses were erected during the year; 40 houses, against which Demolition or Closing Orders are in force, still remain occupied by the original tenants; 28 houses which were subject to Orders are occupied under Defence Regulations 68AA by persons who have been rendered homeless by enemy action. The demand for occupation by this class of person is almost now non-existent, and the Council, at the end of the year, were proceeding to requisition four houses of this type with a view to temporarily relieving persons inadequately housed. This is now possible under a recent instruction from the Government and the procedure in no way invalidates the original order or undertaking in force.

Owing to the continued difficulty of obtaining labour and materials, no substantial repairs or works have been asked for, but urgent repairs such as defective roofs, etc., have been rectified by owners on receipt of preliminary notices.

Many houses, which before the war might have been subject of reconditioning notices, have now so many dilapidations and defects that demolition and clearance will be the only remedy. In addition, the cost of labour and materials has increased so much that it will prohibit many houses from being repaired at a reasonable cost.

It should be pointed out that there are many dwellings (in respect of which undertakings were accepted) in the Borough now unoccupied. These are rapidly becoming derelict and liable to be a nuisance, and it is hoped that no further undertakings will be accepted unless the owners can prove that the dwellings will be converted and used for business purposes within the given time.

Two cases of bug infestation were discovered during the year in Corporation houses—one in a new dwelling and one in an old dwelling. Both houses were sprayed with DDT. solution and the results of this new treatment will be closely watched.

POST-WAR PLANNING.

Plans were approved for the erection of 40 temporary prefabricated houses on the following sites:—

Rinkfield	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Sanatorium Field	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Sandylands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8

Plans for the erection of 30 permanent brick houses at Sandylands were in an advanced state at the end of the year. Lay-out plans for the whole of the Sandylands Estate had been prepared and also designs for further types of houses were in course of preparation, making provision for approximately 250 houses altogether.

The housing shortage is a troublesome problem. The already long list of applicants for new houses has been considerably increased by the number of newly married couples during and after the war. The position is naturally more acute, especially as so many of these couples have now children—furthermore the return of the Service man to civil life is taxing the existing accommodation to the utmost.

Approximately 800 names were on the official waiting list for houses at the end of 1945.

Taken on the standard, as laid down by the Housing Act, many cases of alleged overcrowding are not in fact legally overcrowded, because in assessing that degree regard is paid to all living rooms as well as bedrooms. A standard based on the number of bedrooms available would reveal conditions not so very satisfactory either from a moral or public health point of view.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Numerous complaints alleging defects and nuisances received attention and investigation; 78 preliminary notices were served and 76 complied with. It was only necessary to issue two statutory notices which were complied with.

Many improvements were effected by means of letters.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

Five licences were granted for four caravans and one caravan and hut after the necessary sanitary requirements had been complied with.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The following offensive trades are established in the Borough:—

Fellmongers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Carcase Boilers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tallow Melters	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tripe Boilers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Gut Scrapers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rag and Bone Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

8

During the year the tallow melting premises in Beezon Road were completely re-built and modernised and although the proprietors have not carried out all the works they intend (due to labour and equipment difficulties) there certainly has been a big improvement.

EVACUEES.

On 1st January, 1945, there were 543 evacuees in the Borough. During the year 520 returned home leaving 23 at the end of the year. The two hostels at Brantholme and West Bank for "difficult" children have been retained, although the former closed down on the 20th December, 1945.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK.

116 samples were taken from dealers who deliver milk in Kendal.
The following are details:—

1. GOOD.
Samples complying with both tests ... 42 or 36%
2. MODERATE.
Samples complying with one test only ... 36 or 31%
3. POOR.
Samples which complied with neither test ... 38 or 33%

The number of poor samples being 33 per cent. was a considerable improvement compared with 53 per cent. in 1944. Good samples were 36 per cent. compared with 38 per cent. in 1944.

Bacillus Coli Content:—

49 samples were free from Coli	...	...	42%
7 „ had one tube	...	...	6%
13 „ had two tubes	...	...	11%
47 „ had three tubes	...	...	41%

Methylene Blue Test: —

70 samples complied with the test	...	60%
46 did not comply with the test	...	40%

44 samples were from Kendal farms and 72 from farms outside the Borough; 85 of these samples were also examined for the presence of tubercle bacilli and an additional five were examined solely for tubercle bacilli: two samples contained tubercle bacilli.

Kendal Farms.

Samples examined	...	44
Good	...	14
Moderate	...	11
Poor	...	19

<i>Bacillus Coli Content.</i>			<i>Methylene Blue Test.</i>		
Samples examined	...	44	Samples examined	...	44
Free from Coli	...	18	Complied	...	21
In 1 tube	...	—	Did not comply	...	23
In 2 tubes	...	4			
In 3 tubes	...	22			

Rural Farms.

Samples examined	...	...	72
Good	...	...	28
Moderate	...	...	25
Poor	...	...	19

Bacillus Coli Content.

Samples examined	...	72
Free from Coli	...	31
In 1 tube	...	7
In 2 tubes	...	9
In 3 tubes	...	25

Methylene Blue Test.

Samples examined	...	72
Complied	...	49
Did not comply	...	23

32 per cent. of Kendal samples were satisfactory, compared with 39 per cent. of the Rural samples.

Numerous complaints were again received during the summer months concerning rapidly souring milks. The main causation lies in carelessness in methods of production rather than lack of elaborate cowsheds.

Most retailers in the Borough merely purvey the milk and have nothing to do with production. There is something very wrong when milk goes sour at the most within three hours of delivery.

The zoning scheme for delivery does not assist in promoting that degree of competition that exists in the free choice of a milk dealer.

Another troublesome matter is the late hour of delivery by some purveyors—in some cases this has been reported as late as noon or 1 p.m.

Two of the main weaknesses in efficient milk control are:—

- (1) The legal responsibility for improving cowsheds on the occupier and not on the owner.
- (2) The only person legally removable from the Register is the retail purveyor of milk—a producer of milk, however unsatisfactory his milk may be, cannot be removed but only prosecuted for a breach of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

Improvements were effected at one farm in the Borough by the provision of a new dairy and at the premises of retailers in various parts of the Borough.

The co-operation of the Chief Sanitary Inspector of the South Westmorland R.D.C. in connection with enquiries regarding milk sent into the Borough from his District has been most helpful.

MEAT.

There has been a total of 32,356 carcasses inspected, comprising:—

Beasts	...	...	...	3164
Sheep	...	...	...	21574
Calves	...	...	...	7490
Pigs	...	...	...	128

CASUALTY ANIMALS.

The Ministry of Agriculture has again co-operated, wherever possible, by sending animals for slaughter under the Tuberculosis Order on days when little or no slaughter was taking place. Farmers and dealers still send animals for slaughter which obviously have no food value attached thereto.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	1483	1681	7490	21574	128
Number inspected ..	1483	1681	7490	21574	128
All Diseases except Tuberculosis. Whole carcasses condemned	9	81	218	136	5
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	59 (1)	124 (1)	5	160 (2)	13
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	4.6	12.2	2.97	1.4	14.0
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcasses condemned	24	106	5	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	199	393	—	—	17
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	15.0	29.7	0.07	—	13.5

NOTES. (1) Condemnations for livers and part livers affected with distomatosis, angioma, etc., are not included, no distinguishing of sexes being kept.

(2) Not included in these figures are 3,329 livers affected with distomatosis or other parasitic infections.

The following foodstuffs were condemned in shops or warehouses:—

Tins or Jars.

Meat	...	...	243	Puddings	...	...	40
Milk	...	...	239	Cocoa	...	...	7
Jam	...	...	38	Cheese	...	...	3
Pastes	...	...	2	Fish	...	...	379
Coffee	...	...	1	Mustard	...	...	57
Vegetables	...	...	182	Soups	...	...	16
Sauce	...	...	170	Syrup	...	...	2
Vanilla Oats	...	...	...	...	30	packets	
Oats	...	...	...	...	112	cwts.	
Flour	...	...	...	...	99	packets	
Self Raising Flour	...	...	...	...	154	lbs.	
Barley Flakes	...	...	...	...	150	„	
Meal	...	...	...	...	16	packets	
Semolina	...	...	...	...	210	lbs.	
Soyghetti	...	...	...	...	42	„	
Pudding Mixture	...	...	...	...	86	„	
Rusks	...	...	...	...	118	„	
Biscuits	...	...	...	...	21 $\frac{1}{4}$	„	
Dried Eggs	...	...	...	...	1	packet	
Chocolate	...	...	...	...	26	lbs.	
Rice	...	...	...	...	36	„	
Sugar	...	...	...	...	60	„	
Sultanas	...	...	...	...	200	„	
Raisins	...	...	...	...	30	„	
Fruit	...	...	...	...	26 $\frac{1}{2}$	„	
Dates	...	...	...	...	198	„	
Bacon	...	...	...	...	161	„	
Ham	...	...	...	...	64	„	
Split Peas	...	...	...	...	53 $\frac{1}{2}$	„	
Cheese	...	...	...	...	8	„	
Fish	...	...	...	...	457 $\frac{1}{2}$	„	

Inspection of premises where food is prepared has proved generally satisfactory, and all classes of food vendors do not hesitate to ask for advice and assistance if they have (or take delivery of) any food which appears unsound or unwholesome.

ADULTERATION, ETC., & CHEMICAL & BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.

This work is carried out by Mr. W. H. Roberts, M.Sc., F.R.I.C., City Analyst, Liverpool.

The County Council has delegated to the Borough the functions of procuring samples for analysis and examination.

99 samples of food were taken for analysis as detailed below:—

Article			No. of Samples	Result	Remarks
Milk	..	..	51	Genuine.	
„	..	..	5	Deficient in milk fat.	From one source. Producers; explanation accepted.
„	..	..	3	Milk of abnormal composition.	From same source as above.
„	..	..	2	Genuine.	Latest samples from above source.
„	..	..	1	23% deficient in milk fat.	Legal Proceedings. £5 penalty imposed and £5. 5s. costs.
„	..	..	1	Slightly deficient in milk fat.	Appeal to cow. Subsequent to above sample.
„	..	..	2	Genuine.	Appeal to cow. Subsequent to above.
„	..	..	1	Milk of abnormal composition.	
Rum flavouring	..		1	Genuine.	
Brandy flavouring			1	„	
Almond Essence	..		1	„	
Lemon flavouring					
essence	..	..	1	„	
Orange Squash	..		2	„	
„	..		1	Contained excess of preservative.	Vendor cautioned.

Article	No. of Samples	Result	Remarks
Royal Winslow Liquor Wine ..	1	Genuine.	
Blackcurrant Cordial	1	„	
Lemon Squash ..	2	„	
Lemon Barley ..	1	„	
Malt Vinegar ..	2	„	
Non-brewed Vinegar ..	1	„	
Nectar tonic Wine	1	„	
Orange Flavour Milk Shake Base	1	„	
Coffee	1	„	
Dessert Mould ..	1	„	
Green Ginger Wine Flavour ..	1	„	
Whisky	5	10.3% Excess of Water.	Legal Proceedings. £2 penalty imposed.
Rum	1	Genuine.	
Port Wine ..	1	„	
Gin	3	„	
Gin and Orange ..	1	„	

In the milks the highest fat content was 4.9 per cent. and the highest non-fatty solids content was 9.2 per cent.

The average percentage of milk fat and non-fatty solids in all milks (genuine and non-genuine) was 3.55 per cent. and 8.74 per cent. respectively.

All 66 samples of milk were examined for the presence of preservative and were found to be free from same.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

During the year the incidence of infectious disease has been satisfactory, nor has the type of such given cause for anxiety. There were 36 cases of Scarlet Fever, all of them of a mild description, two cases of Diphtheria, four of Puerperal Pyrexia, three of Erysipelas,

one each of Pneumonia, Dysentery, Undulant Fever and Acute Poliomyelitis. The Puerperal Pyrexia cases arose in Maternity Institutions, three of them in one. The case of Undulant Fever did not arise in the Borough but occurred in a patient who was sent into a Nursing Home from her home in North Westmorland.

There were some cases of Chicken-pox and Mumps but there was no serious outbreak and Influenza. No notifications of Measles or Whooping Cough were received though it is known that there were such; thus statistical accuracy has quite failed and in the case of Measles many children are never seen by a doctor and, being so infectious before ever it can be certified definitely, notification does not assist the prevention or the spread of this disease.

The special Clinic for treating Scabies has done splendid work and the Nurse has been ably assisted by the members of the Ambulance and Nursing Divisions of the St. John Ambulance Brigade; this has now ceased to function as being no longer necessary.

Immunisation against Diphtheria has been carried out systematically since 1940 with Wellcome A.P.T. and has been very readily accepted; the School Teachers have been most helpful in preaching and encouraging the practice; this year 169 children under school age and 344 of school age have been immunised.

The School Medical Officers state that a high standard of Health, Nutrition and Cleanliness has been maintained throughout the year amongst the school children.

For several years attention has been drawn to the fact that there is no modern hospital for Infectious Disease, and a report regarding the Kendal Isolation Hospital has now been received in a survey of Hospital Accommodation made by Sir E. R. Carling and T. S. McIntosh which states " These premises are highly unsatisfactory and should be closed as soon as possible." In spite of all disabilities, the Nursing Service has been of a very high standard and reflects credit on those who have been working under such surroundings. It is suggested that Lancaster Isolation Hospital should serve this Area, but as long as the Kendal Isolation Hospital is required it should be run as auxiliary to the Lancaster Isolation Hospital and restricted to the type of case for which it is least unsuitable.

An efficient steam disinfecter is in operation at the Isolation Hospital. In addition to supplying the needs of the Borough it has been used to disinfect articles sent in by other local and military authorities.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES TABLE.

DISEASE.	Total.	Ages.										Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.		
		-1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-			45-	65-
Scarlet Fever ..	36	—	2	1	1	—	17	6	5	3	—	1	—	34	—
Diphtheria ..	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Pneumonia ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Erysipelas ..	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Dysentery ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Undulant Fever ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	49	1	3	1	1	1	20	7	5	7	1	2	—	40	—

TUBERCULOSIS TABLE.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	3	—	—	—	2	—
5	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
15	5	1	1	2	—	—	1	1
25	4	—	2	—	1	—	—	—
35	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
TOTAL	15	3	7	2	3	2	3	1

This year shows a decline of one on the previous year from Pulmonary cases but an increase of six for Non-Pulmonary. Of the 18 Pulmonary cases, six had originated outside the Borough, four civilians, one soldier and one sailor; of the nine Non-Pulmonary cases, two were soldiers. Of these 27 cases, one Pulmonary and four Non-Pulmonary died during the year.

